

Harpswell Energy Task Force Committee

July 14, 2009 Minutes

Chairman David I. Chipman called the meeting to order at 4p.m. at the Harpswell Town Office. Committee members Debora Levensailor and John Monaghan, Jr. were also present. Dave reviewed the items the committee has been working on with new member John Monaghan, Jr. and gave him copies of reports and other documents.

The committee discussed the \$28,000 which the Town of Harpswell spent during the past fiscal year for street lights, Central Maine Power requirements and standards for the operation of the lights, their locations, whether or not all of them are necessary, and possible alternatives such as reflectors.

Deb stated that Harpswell Neck Fire Chief Dave Mercier had spoken to her after the recent all committees meeting with the Selectmen regarding his concerns about removing any of the lights in town for safety reasons. The committee intends to invite Fire Chief Mercier to share his remarks at a future meeting.

The committee talked about the proposal being worked on by Harpswell Community Broadcasting Corporation (HCBC), the entity which oversees Harpswell Community TV, to install a small wind turbine near the station as part of a process that would eventually cover the facility's electrical costs.

The committee reviewed the mission statement approved by the Board of Selectmen on June 25, 2009.

The committee discussed their plans to put together energy related educational materials and TV programs. Dave said Harpswell resident Scott Lemieux obtained a Senter's Grant to create a mobile wind turbine. Dave suggested that the committee help promote this project by partnering with Scott and the students and teachers involved. John said he will ask Efficiency Maine (EM) for information regarding programs for students and community education. Deb talked about recent newspaper articles she has read on this subject and Dave and Deb suggested talking with Chewonki school staff.

John said he has worked on Habitat for Humanity homes and he suggested that the committee help home owners get rebates from EM and attempt to obtain grant money to modify certain items at the Town Office or replace them with energy saving ones as recommended in the March 2009 EM report.

Dave adjourned the meeting at approx. 5:20p.m. The next scheduled committee meeting is Monday, August 10th at 4p.m. at the Harpswell Town Office.

Submitted by Debora A. Levensailor, Vice Chairwoman